

SYNDICATE PAYS \$60,000 FOR LOT

Purchase of Richmond Academy Grounds Closed, Though No

An agreement for the sale of the Richmond Academy property, on Lombardy Street, between Park and West Avenues, has been reached between the Richmond College board and a syndicate headed by the firm of Morgan Bros. About \$60,000 is the amount stipulated. No deed has been presented.

The unusually attractive plot occupied at Richmond Academy is to be broken up into building lots, to be occupied for most part by members of the syndicate associated with Morgan Bros. in the deal. Robert E. Peyton, Jr., and several other professional men, Branch B. Morgan and George D. Morgan compose the firm of Morgan Bros. The sale was negotiated by the purchasers directly with the board of trustees of Richmond Academy.

The property, which occupies nearly an entire block, fronts 135 feet on Lombardy Street and extends back 366 feet along Park Avenue and 375 feet along West Avenue. The building, which is of wood, occupies only a small section of the lot on the southwestern corner, while the remainder is used as a playground. It is therefore in an ideal condition to be converted into building site.

The syndicate will take possession of the academy property in the summer of 1914, when Richmond College moves into its new plant at Westhampton and Richmond Academy is housed in its future home in the college buildings, on the Broad Street side of the campus. The board of trustees has definitely decided to retain that section of the college campus which is on Broad Street for some time to come, remodeling the present dormitory and

The board has already begun the actual sale of lots on the campus. The transfer of the academy property was made, it is understood, to supply the school with ready money in connection with the building of the new plant. The semi-circle of Franklin and Lombardy Streets, 100 feet from Stuart Monument, has been appropriated for the site of a church or furnished

apartment house. The building committee of the Grace Street Presbyterian Church has asked for the price on this site, it was learned yesterday, but the deal has gone no further.

The Franklin Street lots, already in the hands of a real estate firm, will have thirty feet of frontage and a depth of about 100 feet. The lots on Grace Street will be approximately the same measurements. The city has taken steps toward providing for the continuation of Grace Street, the two

**MAN CONFESSES,
THEN CUTS THROAT**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Portsmouth, N. H., March 10.—After confessing that he murdered Miss Ella Brooks, twenty years ago, of Ulster County, New York, last year ago, John Babbitt to-night fatally slashed his cell-mate in the jail here and then cut his own throat. The wound is serious, but not necessarily fatal. In his confession Babbitt said:
"I have been a bad man; I have served a term in nearly every State

In the Union. I needed the money when I killed Miss Brooks. I was broke and had been drinking. The old lady was known to be rich, and I thought I would be able to make a big haul. I thought I would get a hundred or two. I got only \$18. That's every cent I could find in the house. I went to Poughkeepsie and then to New York. The next year I got consumption and here I am dying. I have been haunted by that killing many times. I know I'm going to die, and I want to get it

off my mind."

Babbitt, who was employed as a berry picker at the time of the murder, is fifty-two years old. He says his home for twenty-four years has been wherever he "hung up his hat." He said he stunned Miss Brooks with a club, and then cut her throat with a paring knife.

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WILL BE MARRIED IN APRIL

Virginia Woman to Marry Captain in South Staffordshire Regiment.
[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch of London, March 10.—The marriage of C. H. Green, fourth son of Sir Frederick Green, and Ruth, the third daughter of the late Graham Graham-Parry, of Cobham, Va., has been arranged to take place in April. Mr. Green is a captain in the South Staffordshire Regiment.

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